## REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of a telephonic interview granted to Applicants' representative, James M. Heintz, on September 7, 2005. During the interview the intent of the election of species requirement to separate the claims between those directed to the lean, premixed, prevaporized embodiment depicted in Figs. 1a and 1b, the diffusion flame embodiment depicted in Figs. 1a and 1c, and other embodiments were discussed. The Examiner also indicated that the selection of claims directed to a particular embodiment would expedite the prosecution of the application.

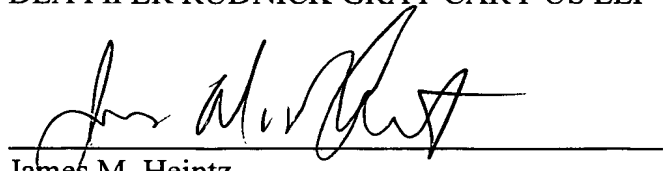
Claims 9-11, 34-36 and 42-114 have been cancelled solely to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in this or any other application.

Claims 1-8, 12-33, and 37-41 remain pending the this application.

This application is now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. The claims present patentable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass this application to issue. Should the Examiner wish to discuss this case or have any suggestions to place it into even better condition for allowance, he is kindly invited to contact the Applicants' below-signed representative by telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

DLA PIPER RUDNICK GRAY CARY US LLP



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